WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Technical personnel of FSI in IOTC

2604. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fishery Survey of India has deputed its technical personnel to work on a part-time basis with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);

(b) if so, the terms of such agreements and benefits accruing to India from such arrangements; and

(c) whether the Central Government is monitoring the independent way the Fishery Survey of India is developing relationships with a foreign organization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Fishery Survey of India (FSI) being a Government of India subordinate office has been functioning under the administrative control of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture. The activities of the FSI have been monitored by the Central Government and no independent relationships are developed by FSI with any foreign organization.

MSP for animals

2605. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to fix Minimum Support Price for the animals like buffaloes, sheep, goat, etc;

(b) whether Government know that traders exploit the farmers who rear these animals by buying their products at throwaway prices; and

(c) how can Government help the farmers to get right price for their animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) It has been reported by a number of committees that moneylenders and traders exploit small ruminant farmers.

(c) Introduction of a system of selling animals on liveweight basis is likely to improve profit margin of farmers. Improving access to credit will keep needy farmers out of the strangle hold of moneylenders.

Meeting of CM's with NDC Sub-committee

2606. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers of several States discussed ways to reverse the slow down in the growth of the agriculture sector at a meeting held with National Development Council sub-committee on Agriculture and related issues;